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# OPPENHEIMER

OPPENHEIMER WOLFF & DONNELLY LLP

200 Century Park East, Suite 3800  
Los Angeles, CA 90067-3024

310.788.5000

310.788.5100

Post Dial: 310.788.5160

E-Mail: GSmith@oppenheimer.com

Brussels

Los Angeles

Minneapolis

New York

Orange County

Paris

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oppenheimer.com

12/28/01

J1011 U.S. PTO  
10/034168  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence and identified enclosures are being deposited on December 28, 2001, with the U.S. Postal Service, "Express Mail Post Office to Address" service, No. EL920452358US under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Box PAT-ENT APPLICATION, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Jessica Brown

December 28, 2001

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Box PATENT APPLICATION  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: Client: San-A Patent Attorneys

Matter No. 500014-93

U.S. Patent Application

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DIAGNOSING ABNORMALITY  
AND ESTIMATING DEGRADATION IN VALVE APPARATUS

Subject: Transmitting Patent Application for Filing

Sir:

We enclose for filing the patent application of:

Inventor(s): Haruo ITO, Susumu WATANABE and Tomoaki SUMITA

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DIAGNOSING ABNORMALITY AND  
ESTIMATING DEGRADATION IN VALVE APPARATUS

The application includes:

Cover + 29 pages of specification, claims and abstract;

Six (6) sheet(s) of drawing(s);

Declaration, Power of Attorney and Petition;

Information Disclosure Statement with two (2) references;

Check No. 024463 in the Amount of \$1,020.00 for Filing Fee;

Assignment Papers for Recordation and check no. 024462 for \$40 recordation fee; and

Return Postcard

10034168-122801

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December 28, 2001

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The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

|                               | No. Filed | No. Extra | Small Entity |  | Other Than Small Entity |         |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|--|-------------------------|---------|
| Basic Fee                     | \$740.00  |           |              |  |                         | \$740   |
| Total Claims                  | 14        | 0         |              |  |                         |         |
| Ind. Claims                   | 2         | 0         |              |  |                         |         |
| Multiple Dependent Claims - 2 |           |           |              |  |                         | \$280   |
| TOTAL                         |           |           |              |  |                         | \$1,020 |

We authorize the Commissioner to charge any additional filing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17, which may be required now or during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 16-2230. We enclose a duplicate copy of this sheet.

Please stamp the filing date on the enclosed post card and return it to us.

Sincerely,

  
Guy Porter Smith

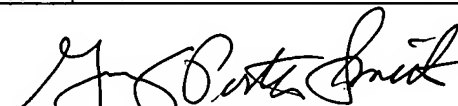
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Enclosures

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☐

Under the paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number

|   |   |  |                               |
|---|---|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>UTILITY</b><br><b>PATENT APPLICATION</b><br><b>TRANSMITTAL</b>   |   | Attorney Docket No. <b>500014-93</b>   |                               |
| (Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b))  |   | First Inventor <b>Haruo ITO</b>  |                               |
|   |   | Title <b>METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR<br/>DIAGNOSING ABNORMALITY AND<br/>ESTIMATING DEGRADATION IN VALVE<br/>APPARATUS</b> |                               |
| <b>APPLICATION ELEMENTS</b><br>See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.   |   | Express Mail Label No. <b>EL920452358US</b>  |                               |
|   |   | Commissioner of Patents<br><b>ADDRESS TO: Box Patent Application<br/>Washington, DC 20231</b>                          |                               |
| <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 48%;"> <p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *Fee Transmittal Cover Letter (e.g. PTO/SB/17)<br/>(Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. (See 37 CRF 1.27)</p> <p>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification <span style="float: right;">Total Pages (Cover + 29)</span><br/>(preferred arrangement set forth below)<br/>           - Descriptive title of the invention<br/>           - Cross References to Related Applications<br/>           - Background of the Invention<br/>           - Brief Summary of the Invention<br/>           - Detailed Description of the Drawings<br/>           - Claim(s)<br/>           - Abstract of the Disclosure</p> <p>4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) <span style="float: right;">Total Sheets (6 -- Figs 1-6)</span></p> <p>5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oath or Declaration<br/>           i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newly executed (original)<br/>           ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d))<br/>           i. <input type="checkbox"/> <u>DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)</u><br/>           Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).</p> <p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76</p> </div> <div style="width: 48%;"> <p>7. <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix)</p> <p>8. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission<br/>(If applicable, all necessary)<br/>           a. <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Copy<br/>           b. Specification Sequence Listing on:<br/>             i. <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or<br/>             ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Paper<br/>           c. <input type="checkbox"/> Statements verifying identity of above copies</p> </div> </div> |   |  |                               |
| <b>ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS</b>   |   |  |                               |
| <p>9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (cover sheet &amp; document(s))</p> <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b) Statement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney<br/>(when there is an assignee)</p> <p>11. <input type="checkbox"/> English Translation Document (if applicable)</p> <p>12. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Citations</p> <p>13. <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment</p> <p>14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503)<br/>(Should be specifically itemized)</p> <p>15. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)<br/>(if foreign priority is claimed)</p> <p>16. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p>  |   |  |                               |
| <p>17. If a <b>CONTINUING APPLICATION</b>, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment, or in an Application Data Sheets under 37 CFR 1.76:</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation<br/>           Prior application information:         </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Divisional<br/>           Examiner:         </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation-in-part (CIP)<br/>           of prior application no.:         </div> </div> <p>Group / Art Unit: _____</p> <p><b>For CONTINUATION or DIVISIONAL only:</b> The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.</p>  |   |  |                               |
| <b>18. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS</b>   |   |  |                               |
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| Address <b>Oppenheimer Wolff &amp; Donnelly LLP, 2029 Century Park East, Suite 3800</b>   |   |  |                               |
| City  | Los Angeles   | State  | CA                            |
| Country   | United States   | Telephone  | (310) 788-5000                |
| Name (Print/Type)   | Guy Porter Smith  | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)  | 20,142                        |
| Signature   |  |  | Date <b>December 28, 2001</b> |